

FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

News Release

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County Executive Gardner Moves Forward with Veterans Advisory Council

Helping the heroes in our community who defended our liberties and freedoms

FREDERICK, MD – The creation of a new Frederick County Veterans Advisory Council moved forward today with County Executive Jan Gardner's announcement that she has submitted a list of nominees to the County Council for confirmation. The advisory group will include members of veterans, military, health, education and related organizations.

"The men and women who served our nation are heroes. We honor their sacrifice and service by supporting them in our community," said Executive Gardner. "The Veterans Advisory Council will ensure that Frederick County's 17,000 veterans will receive all the resources they need."

The Veterans Advisory Council will serve as a conduit for information and resources for veterans and their families who need assistance furthering their education, finding employment, receiving counseling or finding other services.

The advisory group will work in collaboration with established veteran-oriented service organizations, other county boards and commissions and county staff. It will also consider policies, programs and concerns, and advise the County Executive and the County Council on the needs of Frederick County veterans.

Executive Gardner solicited letters of interest from people who wanted to serve on the council and received many qualified applications. Names will be announced when they are confirmed by the County Council.

The advisory council will be comprised of seven voting members and seven non-voting members. Voting members of the Veterans Advisory Council will include: four county residents who served in the military, as well as representatives of veterans organizations and a local institution of higher education. Non-voting members will include representatives from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Frederick County Workforce Services, the Frederick County Health Department's Behavioral Health Services Division, a veteran liaison from the Frederick Regional Health System, a member of the County Council, a member of the county's Delegation to Annapolis and a representative from the office of a member of Congress who represents Frederick County.

Executive Gardner thanked County Council President Bud Otis, Vice President MC Keegan-Ayer, and the council members who worked on this and similar legislation to establish the Frederick County Veterans Advisory Council.

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